

## 75<sup>TH</sup> RANGER REGIMENT BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE FORT BRAGG, NC 28310 / (910) 432-6005 / http://news.soc.mil

## **Sergeant Jason Anthony Santora**

## Died on April 23, 2010 Operation Enduring Freedom

Sergeant Jason Anthony Santora, 25, was a team leader assigned to 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment at Fort Benning, Ga. He was born on March 11, 1985 in Bethpage, N.Y.

Sgt. Santora was seriously wounded in an engagement with an enemy force in Logar Province, Afghanistan. He later succumbed to his wounds.

He was on his fourth deployment in support of the War on Terror with one previous deployment to Afghanistan and two deployments to Iraq.

After graduating from high school, Sgt. Santora enlisted in the U.S. Army from his hometown of Massapequa Park, N.Y. in March 2006. He completed Infantry One Station Unit Training, the Basic Airborne Course and the Ranger Indoctrination Program at Fort Benning, Ga.

After graduating from the Ranger Indoctrination Program he was then assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment in September 2006 where he served as a mortarman. In June 2008 he was assigned to Company D as a rifle team leader.

His military education includes the Basic Airborne Course, Ranger Indoctrination Program, and the U.S. Army Ranger Course.

His awards and decorations include the Ranger Tab, Combat Infantryman's Badge, and Parachutist Badge. He has also been awarded the Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Army Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with combat star, Iraq Campaign Medal with two combat stars, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and the Army Service Ribbon.

He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart, Bronze Star and the Meritorious Service Medal.

He is survived by his father Gary Santora of Medford, N.Y., his mother Theresa Santora of Massapequa, N.Y., his sister, Gina Santora of Medford, N.Y., and his uncle Ralph Fico, of Massapequa Park, N.Y.

As a Ranger, Sgt. Jason Santora selflessly lived his life for others and distinguished himself as a member of the Army's premier light-infantry unit, continuously deployed in support of the Global War on Terror, and fought valiantly as he served his fellow Rangers and our great Nation.

- RANGERS LEAD THE WAY! -